

West Connection Bridge Contractor Open House

Tuesday, Nov. 27, 2012, 11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.

*Seattle Central Library, Level 4
Howard S. Wright Family & Janet W. Ketcham Meeting Room 2
1000 Fourth Ave., Seattle*

Open House Questions & Answers

Please note that all information presented is preliminary and subject to change as contract documents are prepared for advertisement.

Q: *When is construction slated to start?*

A: The current advertisement date is planned for February 19, 2013, with construction expected to begin in June 2013.

Q: *Do you have a more definitive estimate range of the total project cost?*

A: With the caveat that this is a challenging project to estimate costs, we expect the project cost to be in the range of \$15-25 million.

Q: *What are the construction dates for the other I-5 to Medina project segments, including Portage Bay Bridge and West Approach Bridge North?*

A: Besides the West Connection Bridge (WCB), the West Approach Bridge North (WABN) is the only portion west of the floating bridge for which construction funding has been secured. Per legislation, WABN construction cannot begin before July 1, 2014.

Q: *What will they do with the old pontoons?*

A: The final destination of the pontoons for the old floating bridge is the sole discretion of the design-build contractor, Kiewit/General/Manson, A Joint Venture (KGM).

Q: *What are the goals for disadvantaged businesses and/or minority and women businesses?*

A: These goals are not yet defined, but will be in the final bid package.

Q: *Do you expect any delays, such as with the environmental permits and approvals?*

A: We are not expecting any delays. We are on target with our environmental processes.

Q: *What triggers work shutdowns based on fish?*

A: Fishing seasons for Sockeye and Chinook salmon are determined by fish counts taken at the Ballard Locks. When the counts go above a specific threshold and a fishing season is initiated, project marine traffic will not be allowed to travel through waters outside of the limits of construction for the duration of the fishery. The exact timing of a fishery cannot be determined ahead of time, but there is some degree of forecasting available by tracking the fish counts as they approach the trigger levels. The most recent Sockeye fishery was in 2006.

Q: *How long is the WABN, and how much will it cost to construct?*

A: The WABN will be about 5000 to 6000 feet long between the Montlake area and the new floating bridge. The cost range for construction of the WABN is much more than that of the WCB based on the differences in size and structure type.

Q: *What is the future plan for the WCB and existing West Approach Bridge?*

A: The West Approach Bridge South (WABS) will eventually replace the WCB and existing approach structure. The WABS will run parallel to the WABN. The exact timing of the WABS contract will depend on the availability of funding.

Q: *What is the timing for the WABN contract in relation to the WCB contract? What is the expected date of completion for the I-5 to Medina project as a whole?*

A: The WABN construction is planned to begin in summer 2014, which follows soon after substantial completion of the WCB. Per the current environmental documentation and depending upon funding availability, completion of the full I-5 to Medina project is expected by 2020.